

Newsletter
Edition 3
February 2018

LEGO® FOR NEPAL



LEGO® for Nepal, turbo start and now...

In September 2017, we (Linda Ris and Angela Wellink) came up with the idea to bring a few LEGO® Technic parts to Nepal, so the Nepali students could get acquainted with the science and technology and the magic of LEGO®. After the kick-off we noticed the enormous impact on the students and teachers and this light up the fire in us to develop a project. And so, the project “LEGO® for Nepal” was born.

We know that the FIRST® LEGO® League partners, teams and coaches all over the world understand and practice Gracious Professionalism™ and Coopertition™, but we could have never dreamt that they would be so overwhelmingly cooperative. Because of their cooperation, we have accomplished so much more than we could have imagined in just a few months. We have established the Edulent Foundation, joined forces with Volunteer Society Nepal, and even already shipped a few LEGO MINDSTORMS® NXT sets and old FLL challenge mission sets to Nepal.

Together, we have realized the start of a project at the CBIA school in Kathmandu, Nepal and it is getting better and better each day. The FIRST LEGO® League team “Casimir Tech” from Eindhoven, The Netherlands is going to Nepal on April 14th to share their knowledge and experience. They will inspire the Nepali students to design, build and program their own intelligent robots. This will allow the Nepali students to not only understand technology, but to become masters of it. And by doing so, they will go through the entire process of creating ideas, solving problems, and overcoming obstacles, while gaining confidence in their abilities to positively use technology.

We are proud and grateful for this amazing success and we are still going strONG...





FIRST LEGO League (FLL®) is an international enquiry-based program teaching students ages 9 through 16 about science, technology, and collaborative working.

FLL is a partnership between the non-profit organization FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) and the LEGO Group. It had its first season in 1998. Now, over 230,000 students from 80 countries take part.



So, now we are in the process of finding finances to buy materials like rechargeable batteries, chargers, and extra cables, but also to finance transport, wichts is or biggest challenge at this moment, publicity (posters/folders, banners) and more common things like boxes to put all the old FLL challenge sets in.

We would also like to support teams such as Casimir Tech, who are willing to share their FLL knowledge and experience with the students in Nepal. The knowledge sharing program costs about €1.500 per team member. The team members will be in Nepal for 14-days and participate in the program "LEGO for Nepal". The first seven days, will be "Introduction to LEGO MINDSTORMS". In this part of the program, the team members will teach their peers. Before leaving for Nepal, the team will create the content of the program (with help from their coach, the Edulent Foundation and a manual specially created for the Nepali schools). But there is also time to discover Kathmandu, Kathmandu valley, and Chitwan National park, and have FUN. They stay and eat with host family and, in return of their effort, they will learn a lot about the Nepali culture, language and lifestyle. More information about this program can be found on the website of Volunteer Society Nepal: <http://volunteersocietynepal.org/projects/lego-school-exchange/>





Supporters LEGO® for Nepal

Bill Bourn

William G. Bourn, 72, of Glastonbury, loving husband and best friend for thirty-seven years of Kathleen (Klimas) Bourn, passed away Thursday, September 3, 2015 at home after a long illness. Bill's wife donated his FIRST® LEGO® League legacy to the project "LEGO® for Nepal". Since his retirement, he was actively involved in FIRST® LEGO® League. He was coach of the FLL team in Glastonbury for ten years and mentoring the Tomahawk FRC (FIRST Robotics Competition) team at Glastonbury High School. He was a member of NELUG (New England Lego Users Group) which facilitates adults in the sharing of the LEGO® hobby. At various LEGO® user group conventions, Bill assisted with the Great Ball Contraption and provided some very interesting GBC units. In Glastonbury, Bill held computer "help" classes at the River Front Community Center and conducted an after-school robotics program at Gideon Welles School. For the New England Air Museum, he assisted with the "water rockets" events. Bill's wife said to us: "I'm very pleased to have been able to provide the FLL sets to the Nepal kids. I clearly remember when Bill started the program in our town. Over the 10 years that he had a team, the FLL program has grown and provided so many kids an opportunity to spread their wings into something other than sports. A number of his former team members have even gone on to study robotics in college, thanks in part to their FLL experience. I can only hope that what you have started in Nepal will reap the same benefits". We are grateful for this special donation from Bill.

eduACT

EduACT is a nonprofit organization in Thessaloniki, Greece. It was created by Kostas Vasileiou with the goal of introducing innovation and entrepreneurship in the educational process. Their vision is to redefine the education which is provided today, emphasizing in equal participation of all social groups in programs that form young people and teaching leadership skills and social awareness.

That's why they created a network of volunteers with professionalism and passion for their objectives who cooperate creatively with both honorary and active university professors. Since 2012 eduACT has organized FIRST® LEGO® League in Greece and Cyprus. FIRST LEGO League is organized as a cooperation between LEGO Group and the American organization For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST). **eduACT** donated several LEGO MINDSTORMS® NXT's and 4 Animal Allies challenge mission sets. This donation is very welcome and will come in handy during the knowledge exchange program "Introduction to LEGO MINDSTORMS" in April. Website: www.eduact.org/en/home-page/





IET

The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) is a world-class members' organization for the engineering community. They currently have over 150,000 members across 127 countries. The IET looks to ensure the on-going supply of high quality individuals into the professional work place. They do this through a broad range of impactful programs that engage young people, their schools, teachers and families, in order to encourage them to study the STEM subjects at school and then to pursue engineering-based university courses or apprenticeships. The IET's Education 5-19 team has been running the FIRST® LEGO® League competition in the UK since 2012.

Volunteer Society Nepal and the Edulent foundation were searching for support for their project and came in contact with Mandy Workman from IET. It turned out that Mandy had lived in Kathmandu, Nepal and has been a teacher at the British school for over more than 10 years. That gave us the idea to contact with the British school in Nepal. The British school was very interested in FIRST® LEGO® League, and now they are setting up their own FLL team and are willing to share their knowledge and experience with the Nepali schools. As it turned-out, there is an existing network between the UK and British school, British Gurkhas Nepal (BGN), to ship material from the UK to Nepal. Now IET is helping us to collect LEGO MINDSTORMS® NXT's and old FLL challenge mission sets from teams all over the UK and Ireland and shipping them to Nepal via the network. Website: www.theiet.org



ARP

ARP has been the fast and reliable supplier of hardware, software, IT supplies and office supplies for more than 25 years. We combine the best online ordering systems and logistics organization with an assortment of 30,000 different products to deliver to B2B and B2G customers throughout the Netherlands within 24 hours. ARP now also provides IT solutions, with consultants specializing in the fields of Networking & Security, Workplace & Mobility and Printing & Imaging solutions. ARP offers more than IT products, ARP provides a working solution. ARP donated 4 Dell notebooks for to the CBIA school in Nepal. Website: www.arp.nl

Sponsorship and donations

If you think that STEM education is the key for the development of people and of a society. Then please support the project "LEGO® for Nepal". Together we can begin to narrow the scientific and technological gap in Nepal. A child that get familiar with STEM gets opportunities for the future and such opportunities should not be limited to children who live only in particular areas of the world. Your contribution, no matter how small, can make a much-needed difference.



We hope you can find a warm place in your heart for the project "LEGO® for Nepal". Every gift or sponsorship is important and welcome!

Account: NL10 SNSB 0705 8386 17 / BIC number: SNSBNL2A.

in the name of Stichting Edulent citing: sponsoring "LEGO for Nepal" 2018.

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